TRENDS

10/24/83
A3275-2

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 20, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 15 totaled an estimated 17.8 billion ton-miles, 17.3 percent above the corresponding period a year ago.

Cumulative volume for the first 41 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 650.4 billion ton-miles, 2.2 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 15 totaled 399,807 cars, 13.1 percent over 1982, and virtually no change from the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 9.5 percent in the East, 8.8 percent in the South and 18.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were up, with grain loadings showing an increase of 12,327 cars, or 61.0 percent; motor vehicles and equipment up 6,268 cars, or 47.8 percent; and metal and products up 2,270 cars, or 34.7 percent. Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 8 totaled 50,800 cars, up 23.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 89,160 trailers and/or containers, 20.9 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 40 weeks of the year was 1,779,358 cars, 21.5 percent higher than last year, and 3,074,604 trailers and/or containers, up 18.6 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/15/83:

	Loadings in Week ended October 15, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	32,548	I	12,327	61.0	D	2,614	7.4
Other farm products	6,117	I	1,540	33.6	I	2,291	59.9
Metallic ores	17,134	I	3,712	27.7	I	957	5.9
Coal	109,759	D	3,558	3.1	I	267	0.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,047	I	2,509	26.3	I	238	2.0
Nonmetallic minerals	14,062	I	4,090	41.0	I	2,639	23.1
Grain mill products	12,001	I	61	0.5	I	96	0.8
Food and kindred products	12,203	D	1,334	9.9	I	67	0.6
Primary forest products	14,543	I	825	6.0	D	69	0.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,356	I	1,262	20.7	I	323	4.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,333	D	758	5.0	D	940	6.2
Chemicals and allied products	24,373	I	3,541	17.0	D	463	1.9
Petroleum products	4,539	D	29	0.6	D	176	3.7
Stone, clay and glass products	11,502	I	1,497	15.0	D	304	2.6
Coke	4,741	I	62	1.3	D	152	3.1
Metals and products	8,809	I	2,270	34.7	I	651	8.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,394	I	6,268	47.8	D	344	1.7
Waste and scrap materials	9,236	I	1,698	22.5	I	350	3.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,319	I	2,323	29.1	D	375	3.5
All other carloads	54,466	I	8,567	18.7	D	2,572	4.5
LCL traffic	325	D	719	68.9	I	14	4.5
Total Cars Loaded	399,807	I	46,154	13.1	D	120	0.0
Corresponding week of 1982	353,653						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (41 weeks)	14,789,131	14,932,133	D 1.0
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
40 weeks ended October 8	632.6	621.3	I 1.8
Week ended October 15	17.8	15.2	I 17.3
41 weeks cumulative	650.4	636.5	I 2.2

AARt-102083